Keystroke Structure for Electronic Devices

Abstract

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The ~~invention is related a~~ keystroke structure (3) for an electronic device ~~which~~ includes a shell (2) defining an opening (22). The keystroke structure comprises a cap (32) made of hard plastics such as ABS resin, a flange (34) fixed to a bottom of a periphery of the cap, wherein the flange is made of a material, such as rubber which is more elastic than that for forming the cap. The cap has a portion extending upward through the opening. A rod (42) extends downwardly from a bottom of the cap. A switch assembly (4) consisting of four first switches (44) for cursor direction control and a second switch (46) for "enter" control. The first switches are activated by the rod when the cap is titled, and the second switch is activated by the rod when the cap is vertically depressed. When the cap is titled to activate one of the first switches, the flange engage with a bottom face of the shell. Since the flange is made of resilient material, the engagement thereof with the shell will not cause the second switch to be also activated when the cap is titled to activate one of the first switches. Such a design is particularly advantageous when the electronic device has a reduced thickness.